WHO aid for reproductive and sexual health awareness programmes

†933. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Health Organisation is providing aid for the reproductive and sexual health awareness programme being run by the Women and Child Welfare Department in the States;

(b) if so, total amount of aid received during the last two years and the State-wise details of aid disbursed; and

(c) progress achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The World Health Organisation does not provide aid to the reproductive and sexual health awareness programmes being run by the Women and Child Welfare Department in the States.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Charges against Pharmaceutical Companies

934. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pharmaceutical companies, Ranbaxy (UK) has been notified offer claim from the Secretary of State for Health against it and generics U.K. Ltd. in connection with the sale and supply of the Ulcer drug Ranitidine; and

(b) if so, the complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) M/s. Ranbaxy Ltd., who were contacted in the matter have clarified that, they have been notified of a claim issued in the English High Court relating to the anti-ulcer drug, Ranitidine. The claim is for damages and interest to compensate various National Health Services bodies for loss caused by alleged arrangements adversely affecting competition in the sale and supply of Ranitidine between 1997 and 2000. The claim has been served

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

on five Defendants all of which are UK companies and the Particulars of Claim appear to implicate upto 14 companies in the alleged arrangements. Ranbaxy (UK) Ltd. considers that the Particulars of Claim are inadequate and it has formally asked the Claimants for further information before it files its defense.

Assistance to Non-Governmental Hospitals/Dispensaries

935. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any policy to support the functioning of non-Government hospitals/dispensaries/health centres etc. so that proper medical facilities reach people in remote rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details of such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKALAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is exploring the option of improving access to comprehensive Health and Family Welfare Services in demographically weak districts through increased Public-Private Partnership for health. Banks have been requested to consider giving soft loan to private doctors to set up upgrade health clinics for this purpose.

Under National Programme for Control of Blindness there is scheme for expansion or upgradation of Eye Care Units in tribal and rural areas for which Financial Assistance upto maximum of Rs. 25.00 lakh is provided to the NGOs who are involved in Eye Care.

Under revised National TB Control Programme emphasis is being given for involvement of NGOs, to make the programme more accessible to larger segments of the population. These NGOs can adopt any of these schemes. In-hospital care for tuberculosis disease, Microscopy and treatment centre, provision of directly observed treatment, health education and community outreach and TB Unit Model.

NGOs working in the field of Leprosy are given grant-in-aid under Survey, Education and Treatment (SET) Scheme for undertaking Leprosy elimination work.